

fulcrum and having opposed locking hooks for enclosing a post locking aperture formed between said arms, said aperture being configured to receive said post, said swing arms having respective release tabs for grasping by one hand, said release tabs being positioned in opposed spaced relation to one another for opening said post locking aperture upon being pressed toward each other for removing said buckle assembly from said post;

a strap roller for receiving said strap; and

a spring-loaded strap release for selectively preventing and permitting movement of said strap around said roller for relative adjustment of said strap and said assembly;

wherein said swing arms each comprises an integral arm spring for configuring said post locking aperture in a normally locked position.

4. (Amended) A buckle assembly for securing a strap to a fixed post having an enlarged head; the assembly comprising:

a pair of spring-loaded swing arms connected at a common fulcrum and having opposed locking hooks for enclosing a post locking aperture formed between said arms, said aperture being configured to receive said post, said swing arms having

respective release tabs for grasping by one hand, said release tabs being positioned in opposed spaced relation to one another for opening said post locking aperture upon being pressed toward each other for removing said buckle assembly from said post;

a strap roller for receiving said strap; and

a spring-loaded strap release for selectively preventing and permitting movement of said strap around said roller for relative adjustment of said strap and said assembly;

wherein said strap release comprises an integral release spring for configuring said strap release in a normally strap-engaging position and a catch for selectively engaging said strap.

6. (Amended) A buckle assembly for securing a strap to a fixed post having an enlarged head; the assembly comprising:

a pair of spring-loaded swing arms connected at a common fulcrum and having opposed locking hooks for enclosing a post locking aperture formed between said arms, said aperture being configured to receive said post, said swing arms having respective release tabs for grasping by one hand, said release tabs being positioned in opposed spaced relation to one another

for opening said post locking aperture upon being pressed toward each other for removing said buckle assembly from said post;

a strap roller for receiving said strap; and

a spring-loaded strap release for selectively preventing and permitting movement of said strap around said roller for relative adjustment of said strap and said assembly;

further comprising an upper case and a lower case for substantially enclosing said swing arms, said lower case having an elongated slot for selective channeling of said buckle assembly onto said post and for selective removal of said buckle assembly from said post.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "1" and insert instead --6--.

Claim 8, line 1, delte "1" and insert instead --6--.

9. (Amended) A buckle assembly for securing a strap to a fixed post having an enlarged head; the assembly comprising:
a pair of spring-loaded swing arms connected at a common fulcrum and having opposed locking hooks for enclosing a post locking aperture formed between said arms, said aperture being configured to receive said post, said swing arms having

AMENDMENT Continued

09/483,145

respective release tabs for grasping by one hand, said release tabs being positioned in opposed spaced relation to one another for opening said post locking aperture upon being pressed toward each other for removing said buckle assembly from said post;

a strap roller for receiving said strap; and

a spring-loaded strap release for selectively preventing and permitting movement of said strap around said roller for relative adjustment of said strap and said assembly;

wherein said strap release comprises a bearing engaging a recess in said assembly for permitting limited angular motion toward and away from said strap.

REMARKS

Claims 2-10 are pending. Claim 1 has been cancelled and Claims 2, 4, 6 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to depend from Claim 6. Claims 2-6, 9 and 10 have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten. Claim 2, 4, 6 and 9 have been so rewritten and therefore are now in allowable form. The rejection on prior art is now moot.